U.S. Department of Homeland Security United States Coast Guard Auxiliary



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28 OCT 2014

MEMORADUM

From: Michael S. Klacik

Reply to Attn. of:

- To: All Vessel Examiners and Program Visitors
- Subj: RELEASE AND AVAILABILITY OF NEW VESSEL SAFETY CHECK MANUAL, COMDTINST M16796.8A
- 1. The purpose of this memorandum is to announce the release and availability of a new Vessel Safety Check Manual, COMDINST M16796.8A, which has been promulgated and released by CGHQ. All prior versions of the Vessel Safety Check Manual and the USCG Auxiliary Operational Facilities guide are canceled and superseded by this new version, effective 06 OCT 2014.
- 2. Due to some significant changes in policies and procedures, all Auxiliary Vessel Examiners, Program Visitors, and Partner Agencies that are involved in the Vessel Safety Check program should read and thoroughly review this new VSC Manual. Members will notice that the Manual is now in a new format, consistent with a typical Commandant Instruction and other USCG Auxiliary Manuals. This new format is intended to be less ambiguous and more instructive for Vessel Examiners, and also allow the Manual to be updated and corrected more frequently than we have seen in the past.
- 3. The new VSC Manual should be used not only as a reference guide for veteran Vessel Examiners, but for the training/mentoring of new Vessel Examiners. All online and hardcopy versions of the Vessel Examiner qualification tests have been updated to conform to the material found in the new VSC Manual.
- 4. Due to budgetary restrictions the new VSC Manual is being released in an electronic format only. Any requests to ANSC for hard copy versions will result in being directed to the link to the electronic version. The new Vessel Safety Check Manual, COMDTINST M16796.8A can be found at: <u>http://www.uscg.mil/directives/cim/16000-16999/CIM 16796 8A.pdf</u> or posted on the National V-Directorate website under the Job Aid Kits.
- 5. Understanding that many members may wish to have a hard copy version of this manual; the CG Auxiliary Association has made available to our members a low cost means of having materials printed out in hard copy. This agreement with Office Depot allows our members, with our CG Auxiliary Association discount card, to have copies made at the low rate of \$0.025 per black and white copy (normal copy costs are \$0.10 per page).

- 6. Office Depot suggests that rather than provide them with a web site for the new VSC Manual, the member simply download the manual and email it to their local store as an attachment to be reproduced, or hand carry in a thumb drive or CD containing the new VSC Manual for them to print from. **Important Note: If a members does wish to have a copy of the new VSC Manual printed in a "front and back" version, please use the version of the new VSC Manual listed as "Printable Version" located only at the National V-Directorate website, http://www.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=V-DEPT&category=job-aid-kits **
- 7. To obtain the necessary CG Auxiliary Association discount card, our members should simply go to our National web site <u>http://www.cgaux.org</u> click on "Auxiliary Association" ---> "Auxiliary Member Store" ---> "Members Only Benefits" ---> "Sign In" ---> "Office Depot" ---> "Print Free Card". While you are at the store they will also laminate your discount card for you free of charge.
- 8. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this new Manual or the VSC program, please forward them on through your Chain of Leadership to the National V-Directorate.

CC'd: All Elected Officers All DDC-P's All DCAPT's All DSO-VE's All DSO-PV's All DSO-MT's All DSO-PA's All DSO-OP's